(c) and (d) The present system of data collection by Reserve Bank of India does not generate Information as asked for the Question. However, according to the information readily available, action taken against delinquent employees of public sector banks for frauds during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 is as under:-

	1994	1995	1996
(i) No. of employees convicted	50	33	46
(ii) No. of employees awarded major/minor penalty	1248	1160	1207
(iii) No. of employees dismissed/ discharged/removed	360	301	331

State Bank of Indore

2653. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI had Imposed a penalty interest of more than one crore upon State Bank of Indore on account of serious negligence of officers in currency chest branches in Delhi in 1991 and 1992;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that no action has been taken till now against responsible officers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and proposed action against erring officers;

(d) whether it is a fact that officers in Delhi Branches of State Bank of Indore have purchased/discounted cheques beyond their limit/authority in 1995;

(e) if so, whether the Higher Management had not taken action against these erring officers; and

(f) the so, the reason therefor and proposed action against the Higher Officers—who are shielding these corrupt officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) According to the RBI, the penal interest recovered from State Bank of Indore for wrong/delayed reporting of currency chest transactions by its branches in Delhi during the years 1991 and 1992 amounted to Rs. 34.63 lakhs.

(b) and (c) The State Bank of Indore has reported that on investigation of above matter, the Branch Head Chashier and seven officers were found accountable out of whom four officers have been served administrative warnings, two officers have been chargesheeted and awarded a penalty of "censure" and the case of the remaining one officer is under examination by the bank. The Branch Head Cashier has also been chargesheeted and awarded a penalty of Administrative warning.

(d) to (f) State Bank of Indore has reported that all the cases involving exceeding of discretionary powers in their Delhi Branches, relate to routine business transaction and the actions of the Branch Managers were subsequently confirmed by the competent authorities. As all the cheques were purchased in the normal course of business, for genuine business transaction, no action was considered necessary by the bank.

Review Indo-Nepal Pact

2654. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has represented the Union Government to review the Indo-Nepal pact to protect the interests of middle and small scale industries which may hit by the treaty's "duty free" clause; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No representation has been received from the Government of West Bengal to review the provision for duty free import of products manufactured in Nepal, under the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade.

(b) Does not arise.

Female Workers

2655. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of female workers in Coal India Limited from the date of nationalisation and as on June 30, 1997 and December 31, 1996, subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the number of female workers for the last three years;

(c) if so, rate of decline, year-wise; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The number of female workers on the date of nationalisation was as follows:

BCCL	22,725
CMAL	32,452
Total:	55,177

The number of female workers as on 30.6.1997 and 31.12.1996, subsidiary-wise, is as under:

Company	No. of Female workers	
	as on 30.6.1997	as on 31.12.1996
1	2	3
ECL	9,830	9,772
BCCL	11,260	11,404